

## FIELD NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

News about Jackdaws. Apparently the wind patterns in the spring of 1984 brought a number of Jackdaws to the northeast coast of North America. Three were seen from March 23 to April 6 on Miquelon Island (part of the French possession of St. Pierre et Miquelon, a group of islands south of Newfoundland). One of these birds was so exhausted that a child was able to pick it up. Four Jackdaws were "rediscovered" in a kittiwake colony at the Cape of Miquelon by Alain Desbrosse on July 18, 1984 (fide Roger Etcheberry) and were still present on September 21, 1984. In Nova Scotia, one Jackdaw put in a one-day appearance on May 6 on Brier Island. An apparently different bird was seen from May 20 to May 24 on Bon Portage Island, a hundred miles away. The latter bird was observed carrying a piece of plastic.

In April 1984, on Block Island off the Rhode Island coast, a Jackdaw was collected by a nonbirder who fortunately noticed that it was a different crow and put it in his freezer. This skin has been prepared by Martha McClellan of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and P. William Smith of Manomet Bird Observatory is writing a paper on the origin of these Jackdaw vagrants appearing in North America.

One Jackdaw has been present on Nantucket since November 1982 and was joined by a second in July 1984. These birds have been most often seen on Low Beach foraging along the waterline. On August 18, 1984, Bruce Hallett, Macklin Smith, and I observed allopreening between the two Nantucket Jackdaws. As they were foraging actively on the ground, one paused for a moment. The second approached from the side and proceeded gently and slowly to preen the nape and back feathers of the first bird, which remained quiet and still during this time. For a few seconds, the second bird actually seemed to be resting its bill on the other's nape. The behavior occurred only once during our observation and lasted only for a moment or two. The two Nantucket Jackdaws were still present in December.  
Martha Vaughan, Newton

A leucistic Black-bellied Plover was seen on the beach at the south end of Plum Island by Hanson Robbins and Ted Raymond during a wet nor'easter on September 15. A flock of shorebirds feeding in the wrack included Sanderlings, Semipalmated and White-rumped sandpipers, Ruddy Turnstones, and Black-bellied Plovers. The birds flushed in front of the observers, flew out over the water, and returned to the beach, when a very white bird was noted. The bird was an ivory-cream color on the mantle with a darker tone at the carpal joints. The rest of the feathering was white except for the dusky-gray axillars that were darkest where the wing meets the body. The bill, the same size and shape as a Black-bellied's, was black, as were the legs. The jet-black eye appeared very large against the white head. The bird looked very exotic and beautiful, and the observers wondered how long it would escape the eye of a hungry Peregrine.  
George Gove, Winchester